

Bushara Island Bird Walk

Although only 16 ha in size, Bushara Island is characterized by a diversity of habitats, including forest groves of eucalyptus and black wattle, dense shrub-lands, gardens, papyrus swamp, and reedy shorelines. These habitats are home to an abundance of bird species. Expect to see 40 to 50 species in a two hour walk around the island. We will see an active **Great Cormorant** nesting colony and **Malachite** and **Pied Kingfishers** feeding along the water's edge. Other species that may be encountered include **White-tailed Blue Monarch**, **Bar-tailed Trogon**, **African Harrier-Hawk**, **Levaillant's Cuckoo**, **Cardinal Woodpecker**, **Grey-capped Warbler** and **Rufous-breasted Wryneck**.

Duration: 1-2 hours

Cost: Complimentary for overnight guests, U\$2 for day visitors

Bushara Island Dugout Bird Tour

Bird-watching from our large, stable dugout canoes is an experience not to be missed. On our tour around Bushara Island, we will see many bird species which inhabit the forest and water's edge. Numerous nests of **Slender-billed Weaver**, **Red-chested Sunbird**, and **Large (Holub's) Golden Weaver** can be seen. **Pied and Malachite Kingfishers** will fly around us and **Great Cormorants** will clatter in the trees above our heads. **Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater**, **Black Goshawk**, **Black Crake**, **Pink-backed Pelican**, **Black-crowned Waxbill**, **Sedge Warbler** (in season), and **Little Rush Warbler** are all likely. We also have an excellent chance of seeing the resident **Spot-necked Otters**.

Duration: 1-2 hours

Cost: U\$2 per person

Mukoni Village Bird Walk

After paddling 15 minutes across to the mainland, we will walk along a ridge trail through Mukoni Village, a typical lakeside village. This elevated trail to a lookout managed by the Murandi Youth Association provides stunning views of Lake Bunyonyi, and the farms and villages on the steep slopes above the lake. A combination of forest groves, cultivated areas, and gardens are home to a large diversity of bird species. Hawks, including **African Hobby**, **Augur Buzzard**, **Lanner**, and **Black Kite**, have all been seen soaring on thermals above the ridge. Other species likely to be encountered include the endearing **White-headed Saw-wing**, **Scarlet-chested Bronze**, and **Red-chested Sunbirds**, and **Swamp Flycatcher**. Forty to fifty species may be seen on this walk.

Duration: 3-4 hours

Cost: U\$5 per person (snack included)

Nyombe Swamp Boat Tour and Walk

We will motor along a narrow arm of Lake Bunyonyi to Nyombe Swamp, one of the most southern points of Uganda. The swamp is known for its high diversity of bird species with 60 to 70 possible on this tour. Wetland species include, **Papyrus Yellow, Grauer's Rush and White-winged Warblers, Purple Swamphen, African and Little Jacanas, Red-knobbed Coot, and Little Grebe.** After touring the swamp edge by boat, we will take a two hour walk through cultivated fields and along the swamp edge. Many species of swallows, weavers (**Vieillot's Black Weaver**), and marsh birds (**African Spoonbill**) may be seen. If the tour is taken on a Wednesday or Saturday, we can stop at Kyevu Market, where locals, including Pygmies from Rwanda, trade their wares.

Duration: 4-5 hours

Cost: U\$23 for boat; U\$4 per person (picnic lunch included)

Muko Swamp Boat Tour and Walk

Muko Swamp is recognized as one of the best locations in Uganda for papyrus endemics such as **Papyrus Warbler, Papyrus Gonolek, and Papyrus Canary.** We will hike a trail into the heart of the swamp to improve our chances of encountering one of these species. Cultivated fields on the swamp margins are inhabited by numerous birds including, **Grey Crowned-Crane, Yellow-billed Stork, Blue-headed Coucal, waxbills, weavers, and others.** On our return to Bushara Island, we will slowly cruise along the shrub-dominated lake edge to spot other species such as **White-browed Coucal, African Marsh Harrier, and Yellow-backed Weaver.** Sixty to 70 species are possible.

Duration: 4-5 hours

Cost: U\$23 for boat; U\$4 per person (picnic lunch included)



Bushara Island Camp

Lake Bunyonyi, Kabale, Uganda

BIRD-WATCHING TOURS

effective July 2002

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